**The Hiram M. Chittenden Locks, or The Ballard Locks**

3015 NW 54th Street, Seattle, WA 98107

**The Locks**: These are two structures that serve three purposes: (1) to keep the water level of Lake Washington at 20-22 feet above sea level, (2) to prevent the mixing of fresh water and salt water, and (3) to allow vessels to move back and forth from the inland lakes and Puget Sound.

*Open every day, year-round from 7 am to 9 pm.*

**The Visitor Center**: There are exhibits, videos, a gift shop, and friendly staff who provide free guided tours and small lectures on the history of the locks, what the land looked like before the locks, and ways they are trying to preserve the locks, salmon and other wildlife, and nature.

*May 1st to September 30th: Open daily from 10 am until 6 pm.*

*October 1st to April 30th: Open 10 am until 6 pm, though closed on Tuesdays and Wednesdays*

**The Carl S. English, Jr. Botanical Gardens**: There are more than 570 species and 1,500 varieties of trees, plants, and flowers from all over the world.

*Open every day, year-round from 7 am to 9 pm.*

**The Fish Ladder and Viewing Gallery**: The ladders provide a way for fish, especially salmon, to move between the sea and the inland lakes and rivers. The Viewing Gallery provides some basic information about the ladders and salmon and also gives us a view of the salmon and other sea life in the water.

*Open every day, year-round from 7 am to 8:45 pm*

**Visitor Information**

**Cost**: $0, priceless, or free, depending on when you show up (Just kidding. Everything is free all of the time.)

**For more information**, or to schedule a free tour, call the Visitor Center at 206-783-7059 or visit <http://www.nws.usace.army.mil/PublicMenu/Menu.cfm?sitename=lwsc&pagename=mainpage>

